

Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District
Annual Meeting
February 26, 2018
Fair Haven Union High School
7:00 PM

Unapproved Minutes

Administration Present: Brooke Olsen Farrell, Superintendent; Cheryl Scarzello, Director of Finance; Kris Benway, Director of Student Services; Chris Cole, Director of Operations; Casey O'Meara, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

SVMUUSD Board Members: Chairman, Michael Bache, Joshua Hardt, Peter Stone, Shannon Baldwin, David Carpenter, Toni Lobdell, Tara Buxton, Trevor Ezzo, David Renninger, Liz MacKay, Jody Goodhue, Glen Cousineau, Michael Fallis, Amy Munger

Local Administration: Linda Peltier, CVS Principal, Bonnie Lenihan, Building Based Director of Special Education C/H Schools; Kathleen Kilbourne, CES Principal, Kim Prehoda, BVS Principal; Wayne Cooke, FHGS Principal; Jason Rasco, FHUHS Acting Principal

Others Present: Ken Flowers, Moderator; Ceil Hunt, Moderator; Susan Ducharme, Barb Phillips, Lori Tumpowsky, Curtis Hier, Paul Stone, Nicole Garbo, Patrick Frasier, Neil Robinson, Sue and Peter DeCarolis, Rick Wilson, Sr.

At 7:00 PM, Ken Flowers Moderator called the legal voters of the Slate Valley Modified Unified Union School District to order and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 7:02 PM. Ken Flowers, Moderator presented Article I; Election of Officers

- a. Moderator: Chris Cole made a motion to nominate Ceil Hunt as Moderator, this was seconded by Sue Ducharme, hearing no other nominations or further discussion, Motion Carried.
- b. Clerk: Liz Mackay nominated Barb Phillips as Clerk, this was seconded by David Renninger; hearing no other nominations or further discussion, Motion Carried.
- c. Treasurer: Michael Bache nominated Sue Ducharme as Treasurer; this was seconded by Ceil Hunt, hearing no other nominations or further discussion, Motion Carried.

At 7:05 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator presented Article 2, to hear and act upon the Reports of School District Officers. Ceil hunt made a motion to accept the Reports of the School District Officers with one correction to page 2, to amend the SVMUUSD Moderator for the Evening from Ceil Hunt to Ken Flowers, this was seconded by Sue Ducharme. Motion Carried.

At 7:06 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator presented Article 3, to approve annual salaries of the School Directors and other elected officers of the School District. Ceil Hunt made a motion to approve the article as read, this was seconded by Nicole Garbo. Motion Carried.

At 7:08 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator presented Article 4, Shall the voters of the School District authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year. Ceil Hunt made a motion to allow School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year. This was seconded by Sheri Adams. Motion Carried.

At 7:09 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator presented Article 5; to have the Board of Directors of the School District present the proposed school budget for the ensuing year. Ceil Hunt made a motion to allow the Board of Directors to present the School Budget. This was seconded by Sue DeCarolis. Lengthy discussion ensued, Neil Robinson asked if other locations had been considered for the SVMUUSD Offices? He asked the propose expenses for this relocation to FHUHS. Superintendent Brooke Farrell, Director of Operations, Chris Cole and Finance Director answered many questions with regard to the process and the settlement of FHUHS as the desired location for the relocation of the SVMUUSD Offices. Michael Bache, Board Chair also explained some of the decision making and the process as it unfolded. It was explained that the budget included monies for the changing to the facade of FHUHS as well as some other projects. Sue DeCarolis asked if including the costs of the renovation still resulted in a decrease to the budget over prior years and it did. Other discussions centered around if there was still consideration of a consolidated Middle School in the future. Michael Bache said this was not an undertaking of the Board in the first year, but that it was not off the table. There was discussion if Orwell might still join the SVMUUSD.

At 7:45 PM Motion was carried for Article 5.

At 7:46 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator presented Article 6: To transact any other business that may come before the meeting. No other business was brought before the meeting.

Ballot Questions:

At 7:47 PM, Ken Flowers. Moderator, read Article 7 into the record. Shall the voters of the school district approve the school board to expend \$21,031,400, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$14,915.71 per equalized pupil. Ceil Hunt asked what the per pupil spending costs were for last year. Last year's per pupil spending was approximately \$115.07.higher.

At 7:54 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator read Article 8 into the record. Shall the voters of the School District authorize a capital improvements and repairs reserve fund, pursuant to the provisions of 24 V.S.A. 2804, for the purpose of capital improvements and repairs projects? Discussion ensued. Ceil Hunt asked if there was a specific amount in Article 9, that was being thought of to establish a reserve fund with. Chris Cole, Director of Operations explained which schools were bringing reserve funds into SVMUUSD and said the original intent of these reserve funds would remain the priority for the individual schools bringing these monies forward. BVS, FHGS and FHUHS all has reserve funds specified and earmarked. This would not change. Castleton Hubbardton was not bringing any reserve funds to the union.

At 7:59 PM, Ken Flowers read Article 9 into the record. Shall the voters of the School District, authorize an amount of \$50,000.00 for the capital improvements and repairs reserve fund for the ensuing fiscal year?

At 8:02 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator read Article 10 into the record. To elect six (6) each for three year (3) terms to serve on the School District's Board of School Directors:

- One (1) School Director who is a resident of Benson.
- One (1) School Director who is a resident of Castleton
- One (1) School Director who is a resident of Fair Haven
- One (1) School Director who is a resident of Hubbardton
- One (1) School Director who is a resident of Orwell
- One (1) School Director who is a resident of West Haven

At 8:05 PM, Ken Flowers, Moderator read Article 11 into the record. To elect one (1) School Director who's is a resident of Fair Haven to fill the remainder of a three-year (3) term on the School District's Board of School Directors.

At 8:07 PM, Ceil Hunt made a motion to adjourn until March 6, 2018 to vote by Australian Ballot.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bonnie Lenihan